



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Attorney Docket No. 00-1156)

In re the Application of:)
Blomme) Examiner: Nerbun, Peter P.
Application No.: 09/674,258) Art Unit: 3765
Filing Date: February 2, 2001) Confirmation No.: 5033
For: Suturing Means for Connecting)
a Tubular Vascular Prosthesis..., and)
a Vascular Prosthetic System)

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION, MAILED DECEMBER 23, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 23, 2003, the applicant respectfully requests consideration of the following remarks and response. A petition for a three month extension of time and a check in the amount of the required fee are attached. Accordingly, a response is timely filed on June 23, 2003.

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.10)

The undersigned certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 23, 2004. Express Mail No: EV334705722US

Date: 6/23/2004

CHRISTOPHER P. SINGER